



DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

November 30, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT A TEMPORARY BRIDGE
AT BEVERLY BOULEVARD OVER RIO HONDO CHANNEL
THROUGH EMERGENCY CONTRACTING
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the public interest and necessity require immediate emergency work to install a temporary bridge to replace a portion of the bridge on Beverly Boulevard, which was destroyed by a fire on November 1, 2005, to safeguard life, health, and property.
2. Find that the emergency work described above is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
3. Authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, without advertising for bids, to negotiate and enter into an agreement with a supplier to furnish, deliver, and lease, for up to 18 months, a temporary bridge at an estimated cost of \$560,000.

4. Authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, without advertising for bids, to negotiate and enter into a contract to install the temporary bridge and perform necessary appurtenant work, at an estimated cost of \$290,000, to be utilized by traffic until the bridge is reconstructed.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approximately 180 feet of the steel and timber bridge on Beverly Boulevard over Rio Hondo Channel was destroyed by fire on November 1 of this year resulting in the closure of the roadway to traffic. The bridge is jurisdictionally shared between the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera. The Cities have formally authorized the County to act as the lead agency to administer the partial replacement of the burned segment with a temporary bridge.

To expedite the reopening of the bridge, we recommend that your Board authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, without advertising for bids, to negotiate and enter into the above-described agreement and contract on behalf of the County allowed by Section 20395(e) of the Public Contract Code.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action meets the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence by resuming access to motorists who travel on Beverly Boulevard over Rio Hondo Channel. The residents of the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera and the unincorporated County area will benefit, and their quality of life will be restored.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

This project will be administered under the Federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation (HBRR) Program covered by Agreement 71078 with the State of California. Under this program, Federal-aid grant funds will be used to finance a portion of the project cost.

This action will have no impact on net County cost. The total project cost is estimated to be \$850,000. The project cost will be financed with \$680,000 of Federal HBRR Program funds and \$85,000 each from the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera. The County will not be obligated to provide any funding for this project. The funding provided through the Federal HBRR Program and by the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera will be made available in the Road Fund Fiscal Year 2005-06 Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On November 1, 2005, your Board authorized the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to execute an agreement with the two Cities for a project to permanently replace the bridge and for the County to perform the preliminary engineering and administer the construction of the project. Furthermore, on October 12, 1999, your Board adopted a resolution declaring portions of Beverly Boulevard and Rea Drive, within the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera, to be a part of the County System of Highways. Jurisdiction was duly authorized on November 9, 2005, by the City of Montebello and on November 15, 2005, by the City of Pico Rivera.

Public Contract Code, Section 20395, sets forth emergency contracting authority for work on county highways, as follows: "In any county that has appointed a road commissioner pursuant to Section 2006 of the Streets and Highways Code . . . the board may authorize the road commissioner . . . to have any work upon county highways done under his or her supervision and direction. The work may be done in any of the following ways: . . . (e) By purchasing the material and letting a contract for the work or by letting a contract covering both work and material without advertising for bids when the estimated cost of emergency work necessitated by the imminence or occurrence of a landslide, flood, storm damage, or other emergency exceeds twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) and the public interest and necessity demand immediate action to safeguard life, health, or property."

The public interest and necessity require that this emergency work be done expeditiously to safeguard life, health, and property because Beverly Boulevard serves as a major artery for emergency vehicles, and the closure of the bridge across the Rio Hondo Channel has impacted emergency vehicle response times to and from the Cities of Montebello and Pico Rivera including the Beverly Hospital located just west of the Rio Hondo Channel.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

As an emergency project, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 21080 (b)(2) and (b) of the California Public Resources Code and Section 15269 (b), (c), and (d) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Upon approval of the recommended action by your Board, Public Works will file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk in accordance with the requirements of Section 21152(b) of the California Public Resources Code. A \$25 handling fee will be paid to the County Clerk for processing.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

This construction and installation work will be contracted on a negotiated basis following the compilation of a short list of qualified contractors. An agreement to furnish, lease, and deliver a temporary bridge will be negotiated with a bridge supplier.

The plans and specifications for the construction and installation of the temporary bridge will include the contractual provisions, workmanship standards, and equipment requirements necessary for the prosecution of this project. The contract agreement will be in a form previously approved by County Counsel.

The specifications will also contain provisions (1) requiring the contractor to comply with the County's Child Support Compliance Program, (2) requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper considerations by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees, (3) requiring the contractor to comply with the requirements of the Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, and (4) requiring the contractor to comply with the Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law).

The project specifications will also contain a provision that, should the contractor require additional or replacement personnel to fill employment openings, consideration shall be given to hiring qualified participants in the County's Greater Avenues for Independence or General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs.

To ensure that the contract is awarded to a responsible contractor with a satisfactory history of performance, contractors will be required to report False Claims Act violations, labor law/payroll violations, debarments, their civil litigation history, and information regarding prior criminal convictions. The information reported will be considered before awarding contracts.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Beverly Boulevard is currently closed in the vicinity of the proposed project. Construction of the proposed project will allow the reopening of Beverly Boulevard.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE
Director of Public Works

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cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel